GAIN Report

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Argentina

Oilseeds and Products

Oilseed Production Update

2000

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U.S. Embassy

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Report Highlights:

Conditions for oilseed production in Argentina have been very favorable, especially in the western portions of Argentina's growing regions.

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Executive Summary

During field travel through the principle oilseed production regions of Buenos Aires, Santa Fe and Cordoba provinces, the condition of both the soybean and sunflowerseed crops were observed to be good. Although some areas still could use more moisture due to the negative effects of hot, dry winds, subsoil moisture is adequate, resulting in good plant development.

For soybeans, plant development is from flowering to pod filling. For sunflowerseed, some areas are now being harvested in western Buenos Aires province, while others are setting seed.

Conversations with farmers indicate that the traditional sunflowerseed area may be moving toward the western portion of the grain and oilseed belt, as that crop does better in the dryer conditions found there. Also, with lower returns to sunflowerseed farming, some land traditionally planted to sunflowerseed was switched to other crops.

Graph 1. Soybean Production north of Rio Cuarto



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Graph 2. Sunflowerseed Field east of General Villegas



Graph 3. Sunflowerseed north of General Villegas



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Graph 4. Typical Soybean Field in Cordoba Province

